(*b*) whether they propose to organise a Statistical and Commercial Intelligence Department or a separate section for these in the Secretariat?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) An Officer has been deputed for training in Customs and Statistics and the question will be taken up on his return.

Export duty on Bulb Turmeric.

3. MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received any representations protesting againt the imposition of an export duty on Bulb Turmeric?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: Yes.

Export duty on pepper.

4. MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the present rate of export duty on pepper was introduced;

(*b*) what was the price of pepper at that time; and

(*c*) what is the current price of pepper?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: (*a*) on 1-5-1101.

(*b*) Bh. Rs. 223 per candy of 500 lbs.

(*c*) Bh. Rs. 92-0-0 per candy of 500 lbs.

Cost of Living Index Numbers.

5. MR. K. C KARUNAKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state what steps have been taken on the recommendation of the Economic Development Board regarding the compilation of cost of Living Index Numbers?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: Government propose to consult the reconstituted Economic Development Board.

Alleppey-Aroor road.

6. MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether their attention has been drawn to the very unsatisfactory condition of the Alleppey-Aroor road; and

(*b*) if so, what steps have been taken to improve the condition of the road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Two estimates amounting to about Rs. 20,000 have been received from the Chief Engineer for urgent improvements to the road and they are under the consideration of Government. The Chief Engineer has also sanctioned another estimate for Rs. 1,730 and given instructions to the Division Officer, Kottayam to carry out the necessary works as far as funds permit.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly